



“SCOOP”

ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

May 2008

Availability of 2008 Crop Year Wool, Mohair, Unshorn Pelts, and Honey Loans and LDP's

On April 25, 2008, the President signed a bill providing authority for FSA to continue administering 2008 crop wool, mohair, and honey marketing assistance loans and LDP's through May 2, 2008. In addition, this law makes available 2008 crop year LDP's on unshorn pelts.

For a 2008 crop year loan or LDP on wool, mohair, and unshorn pelts, the commodity must have been produced in the 2008 calendar year and the loan or LDP must be requested on or before May 2, 2008. In addition, the animal must have been owned by you for at least 30 calendar days prior to shearing or slaughter.

For a 2008 crop year loan or LDP on honey, the honey must have been extracted in the 2008 calendar year and the loan or LDP must be requested between April 1, 2008, and May 2, 2008. (Due to current prices, it is doubtful there will be an LDP available for honey in April 2008).

For more information on these provisions, contact your local FSA office.

Program Deadlines

Final 2007 Loan and LDP Availability for Rice, Cotton, Soybeans, Corn, Grain Sorghum, Dry Peas, Lentils, Mustard Seed, Safflower Seed, Small Chickpeas, and Sunflower Seed	May 31, 2008
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**Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
Acreage Reporting Deadlines Announced**

2008 NAP Acreage Reporting Deadline	
Crop	Date
Broccoli	May 15, 2008
Cabbage	
Carrots	
Sweet Corn	
Lettuce – All varieties	
Potatoes – All varieties	
Strawberries	
Tomatoes – Spring Planted	

Acreage Reporting Deadline for Fall-Seeded Crops is May 15, 2008

May 15, 2008, is the deadline to report fall-seeded crops to your local FSA Office. A late payment fee will be charged for reports filed after May 15, 2008. It is unknown at this time if an acreage report will be required to obtain any potential USDA benefits for the 2008 crop year. However, in the previous Farm Bill acreage reports were required for most programs before payments could be issued.

Failed and Prevented Planted Acreage

Failed Acreage Provisions – Producers should report failed crop acres to their local FSA Office when the crop is failed due to disaster-related conditions such as but not limited to the recent flooding. To be timely filed, acreage reports for failed acreage shall be filed ***before the crop is destroyed***. County Committee review and action is required to receive history credit in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

Prevented Planted Provisions – Producers should report prevented planted acreage to their local FSA Office when the crop acreage is not planted due to disaster-related conditions. To be considered timely filed, prevented planted acres shall be reported no later than ***15 calendar days after the final planting date*** established by Federal Crop Insurance. County Committee review and action are required to receive history credit in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

County Committee ***may not*** approve acreage that:

- Was not planted because of a *management decision*
- Was used for *conservation purposes*, including any that was intended to be left idle
- Had a *previous or subsequent crop* planted that does not meet the double-cropping provisions
- Does not meet *other* applicable rules.

Below are the final planting dates for Arkansas and the deadlines for filing prevented planted credit. Unless noted the date is applicable to all counties in Arkansas:

Crop	Federal Crop Insurance Final Planting Date	Deadline to File Prevented Planted
Corn	May 10	May 25
Upland Cotton	May 20 Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, St Francis, White, and Woodruff Counties	June 4
Upland Cotton	May 25 Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Clark, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Lincoln, Little River, Lonoke, Miller, Monroe, Phillips, Prairie, and Pulaski Counties	June 9
Peanuts	May 25	June 9
Rice	May 31	June 15
Grain Sorghum	June 10	June 25
Soybeans	June 15	June 30
Wheat, Oats,	November 30	December 15

Measurement Service

Producers who would like a guarantee on their crop planting, and land use acreage can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. The Producer must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have service completed on the farm. Measurement service guarantees compliance with a program if the planting is limited to the measured area. Incorrect acreage self-certification may result in reduced program payments, penalties, or loss of eligibility.

2005-2007 Crop Disaster Program (CDP)

FSA National Office is beginning to release some rules and regulations concerning the *quality* portion of the program as shown below. We will release more as it becomes available. A sign-up period has not been announced at the current time. The sign up period will be published in the next applicable SCOOP once it is announced.

- Eligible years are 2005, 2006 and 2007
- Crop must have had a multi-peril Federal Crop Insurance policy with Risk Management Association (RMA) or be covered by Non-insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
- losses must be from *eligible cause of loss*
- quality is *not* a separate program it is just another part of CDP for which provisions such as Adjusted Gross Income, payment limitation, multiple cropping, apply

- producer must *first file a quantity application*, but the quantity application does *not* have to calculate to a loss or payment
- Only *harvested* production is eligible
- Producer *must provide verifiable production evidence* of the quality loss
- COF must *keep a copy* of the production records.
- A *single* ticket, bale, bin, etc (production) can be eligible
- The ticket, bale, bin, etc (production) must have a **25% loss** in *both quality and price* in order to be eligible for quality payment
- Each ticket, bale, bin, etc. (production) will be allocated to one of *six levels*. Five levels can calculate a payment. The sixth level (*unaffected*) is where production is loaded that did not meet the 25% loss level.
- The Arkansas State Committee will established statewide quality levels for all crops, intended uses, and years.
- Harvested but unmarketable production (known as salvage for quantity losses) must also have a value calculated and loaded into the applicable level.
- Payments will be calculated:
 - using the *35% threshold* (just like quantity losses)
 - *42% of from the CDP crop table price* or a producer's Marketing Contract price if applicable
 - Factored again according to the *level* the production meets
 - Adjusted for the amount received for quantity.
- RMA and some *NAP* crops may have *already* been adjusted for quality but the producer may provide production evidence to see if *additional* adjustments are applicable
- Most crops can be eligible.
- Examples of *non-eligible crops*: aquaculture, Christmas trees, nursery, honey, turf grass sod, and maple sap. A complete list is available in the County Office.

Producers are reminded that **quantity loss** application may still be filed in the County Office. A deadline has not been announced at the current time.

Husband and Wives Signing Authority

A husband and wife may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation Programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the County Office from either spouse. Spouses may also sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership; however, a spouse may not sign on behalf of the other as authorized signatory for the partnership or an entity.